
Health Care & Wellness Committee

HB 1935

Brief Description: Concerning adult family homes.

Sponsors: Representatives Morrell, Walsh, Cody, Orwall, Kenney, Bailey, Miloscia, Green, Kelley and Williams.

Brief Summary of Bill

- The Department of Social and Health Services will establish a specialty license recognizing adult family home operators who successfully complete the program at the School of Nursing.
- Restrictive covenants that have the effect of limiting the ability of people with disabilities to live in the residence of their choice, including adult family homes, are void.

Hearing Date: 2/12/09

Staff: Dave Knutson (786-7146)

Background:

Adult Family Homes are facilities that provide residential care and treatment for up to six individuals. They are typically located in residential neighborhoods. The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) is following a policy of meeting the residential care needs of clients in facilities with a home-like setting. As the elderly population increases, there will be a need for additional residential facilities in residential areas. The Legislature authorized the University of Washington through the School of Nursing to offer a geriatric certification and testing program for adult family home operators through a budget proviso in the biennial operating budget. The role of the DSHS in recognizing adult family home operators who successfully complete the program at the School of Nursing was not clearly defined.

Summary of Bill:

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

The Department of Social and Health Services will establish a specialty license recognizing adult family home operators who successfully complete the program at the School of Nursing. Restrictive covenants that have the effect of limiting the ability of people with disabilities to live in the residence of their choice, including adult family homes, are void.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.